

I feel that the FCC is missing the bigger picture of what is going on in the television broadcast market. As the Cable companies are consolidating their head ends to the major cities they are dropping the real local stations from their channel Line-up. These stations they remove carry all of the programming of local interest. They carry the town hall meetings, mayor speeches, local parades, and numerous programs of local interest. An example of this is TV-48 in Kenton, Ohio. This is a small station in Hardin County. The station used to be on Time Warner Cable in Kenton, Ohio. Unfortunately, in the infinite wisdom of Time Warner, they were removed from the channel lineup. The reasoning that the cable company stated for this was that the Head End moved and the signal of the station does not reach the primary head end. Well... Who besides the cable company expects a small LPTV station to broadcast their signal over 35 miles? I even looked it up. This station cannot even file to utilize fiber optics or other means to get their signal to the head ends since they are not Full Power Stations. So... to the cable companies "Must Carry" is already dead. Without the must carry laws you miss out on the Localism of small towns, communities, and cities. If you are serious in preserving the "Localism" of television broadcasting you need to make sure that the class A stations are protected since they are truly the local stations.